THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SHEES RAM OLA): (a) to (f) Two Central Public Sector Units located in Andhra Pradesh, namely M/s. Hindustan Flurocarbons Ltd., and M/s. Southern Pesticides Corporation Ltd. have been declared sick by the Board for Industrial and financial Reconstruction (BIFR) during this period, and their revival under the provisions of the Sick industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 is under consideration of BIFR.

Loss of Manhours Due to late Running of Trains

2078. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN:
SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA:
SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) total manhours lost due to delayed trains during the last year;

(b) what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what steps have been taken to ensure timely running of trains; and

(d) whether Government envisage enacting any law in this regard so as to fix responsibility for delayed trains and offset the national loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Such statistics are not maintained.

(b) Trains get delayed due to various reasons such as accidents, agitations/ bandhs, alarm-chain-pulling, loco failures, grid failures, miscreant activities etc.

(c) All efforts including intensive chasing and daily monitoring at different levels are being undertaken regularly. In addition, punctuality drives both at Inspectorial and Officers' level are also being launched.

(d) Staff found responsible for detention of trains are taken up regularly both for major and Minor penalties. Accordingly, during January, February, March 1996 the following staff were taken up for Major and Minor penalties:—

January—more than—753
February—more than - 651
March—more than—746

Transfer and posting of Railway Catering Employees

2079. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the Offices and Departments in Delhi where Railway Catering is functioning as an allied service?

(b) the policy and criteria for posting of staff and officers at such places;

(c) the policy and criteria for transfer of such staft and officers;

(d) whether Government are aware that posting at one place for a long period results into nexus and malpractices; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken to avoid long stay of such staff and officers at one place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) There are seven such catering establishments functioning in Delhi viz. (1) Parliament House Main Building, (2) Parliament House Annexe, (3) Prime Minister's Office Canteen in South Block. (4) VIP Canteen in Rail Bhawan, (5) Parliament House Reception Office Canteen (6) North Avenue MPs' Canteen and (7) South Avenue MPs' Canteen.

(b) Posting of officers and staff in the catering establishments of Parliament House is done in consultation with the Lok Sabha Secretariat.

(c) The staff working in the catering establishments comprising the above seven units form a separate cadre and seniority unit and they are transferred within these units. The officers are transferred over Zonal Railways.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Rotation of officers and staff is subject to administrative exigencies.

Problems of Brackish Water Prawn Culture in Orissa

2080. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the problems of brackish water prawn culture in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken to identify and resolve those problems?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISH-RA): (a) and (b) Apprehensions have been vioced in some quarters about the. possible adverse impact of prawn culture in the Coastal areas including Orissa. To ensure sustainable and eco-friendly development of brackish water prawn/ shrimp farming, the Government of India have issued Guidelines to all the maritime States including Orissa which among others stipulate that:—

(i) all prawn/shrimp culture units with 10 ha or more water spread area should obtain clearance from the environmental angle, of the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) before commencement of aquafarming. In addition all farms established under export oriented Unit/Joint Venture will also be required to obtain such clearances from the SPCBs,

(ii) the units with a net water area of 40 ha or more shall incorporate an environment Monitoring and Management Plan (EMMP) which inter-alia includes treatment of waste water before discharging into the adjoining land/water ways; prevention of conversion fo agriculture land, ecologically fragile mangrove areas and other ecosystems into shrimp farms; prevention of leaching of saline water into adjoining aquaculture/ground water/ drinking water sources, etc.,

(iii) the unit has to abide by the relevant rules and regulations notified by the Ministry of Environment & Forests, on water pollution, coastan regulation zone, etc.

Rail accidents and Ccmpensation to victims

2081. SHRI P. VEDPRAKASH GOYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

(a) the number of rail accidents that took place in the country from 1st January to 30th June, 1996;

(b) the manner in which the same compares with rail accidents during corresponding period in 1994 and 1995;

(c) whether the near relatives of persons killed and the persons injured in these accidents have been paid the amount of compensation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps proposed to be taken to expedite the payment of compensation to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) In formation is as under-

Period	Number of accidents
01.01.% -30.06.96	223
01.01.95 -30.06.95	206
01.01.94-30.06.94	243

(c) to (e) No compensation has been paid to the dependents of dead and injured passengers for the accidents occurred from 1st January to 30th June, 1996. Compensation will be paid soon